THE WINBORNES OF OLD

By

Benjamin Brodie Winborne

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By

Ex-Judge Benj. B. Winborne

Murfreesboro, N. C.

Author of

Colonial and State History of Hertford County, N. C.; The Winborne Family, and Other Volumes

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RALEIGH, N. C.
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1911

Dedication

I dedicate these sketches to the memory of my father, Maj. Saml. D. Winborne; my uncle, Dr. Robert Henry Winborne, and my brother, Robert Warren Winborne, Esq.

BENJ. B. WINBORNE.

Murfreesboro, N. C.
June, 1911.

Introduction

I have penned these sketches of these old people at leisure moments, which gave me much needed rest and pleasure. I hope they may be of some interest to my family and friends, and prove to be an inspiration to the young members. These old people were godly people. The love of God is the noblest impulse of man. They studied the Word, which has conquered the world. By the Word the Church has been saved, and by the Word the world will be redeemed.

With this sketch added to "The Winborne Family," written by me in 1905, and my "History of Hertford County," my family have as complete a sketch of the family as I can obtain.

BENJ. B. WINBORNE.

June, 1911.

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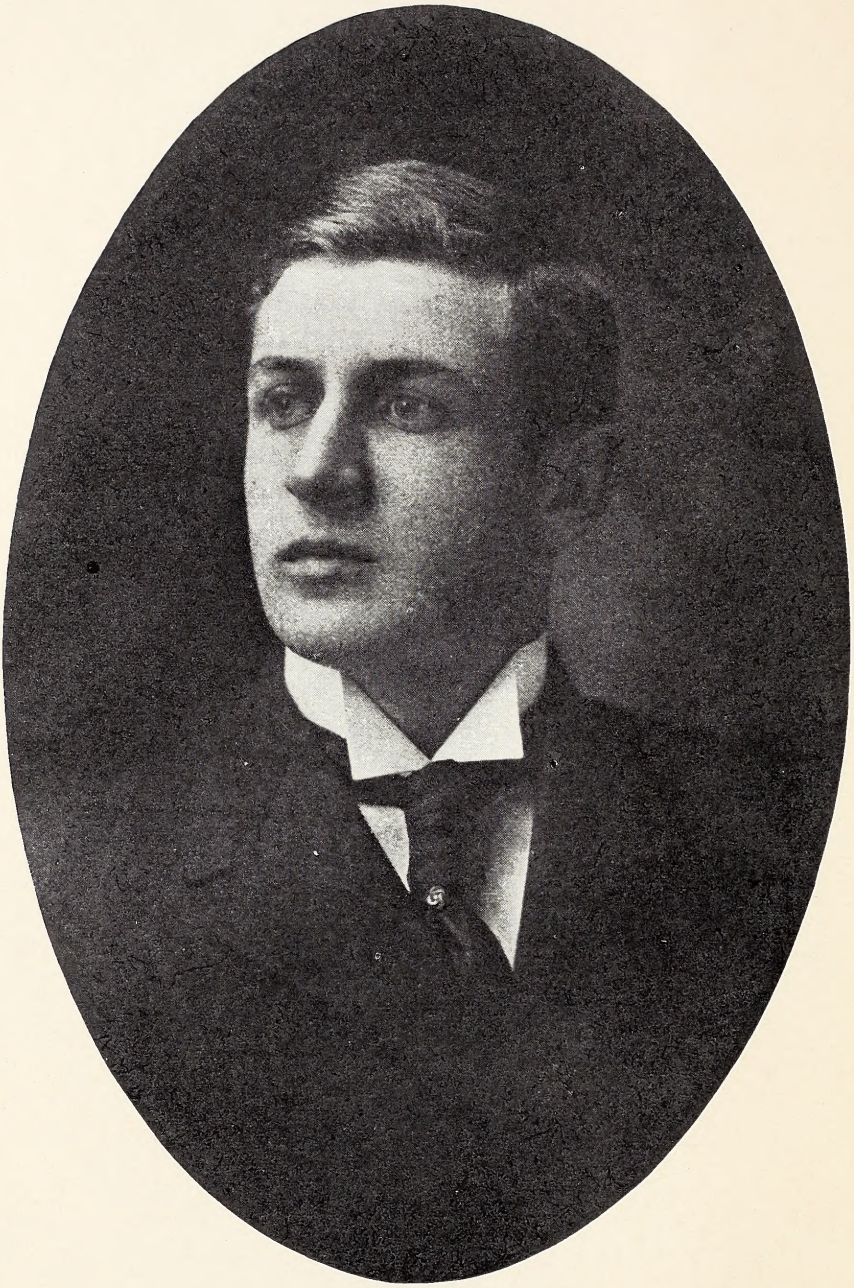

STANLEY WINBORNE, ESQ.,

LAWYER,

Son of Hon. B. B. Winborne and wife, Nellie Vaughan.

"Charge, Chester, charge!
On, Stanley, on!"
Were the last words of Marmion.

The Winbornes of Old

SINCE WRITING my History of the Winborne family and my Colonial and State History of Hertford County, N. C., I have secured some additional information of the early members of this family in America, but have been unable to learn when they first emigrated to America, or from whence they came.

My grandmother, Martha Winborne, widow of Elisha Winborne, and daughter of Col. Etheldred Warren, of Virginia, however, often told me when I was very young that the Winbornes came to America from Scotland. The family is first found in the upper parish of Nansemond County, Virginia, in and around the town of Suffolk. The old records of this county were destroyed in 1865. It was a great public calamity, as they contained some of the richest and most valuable historic information of old Virginia.

The old vestry books of colonial days of this county, however, are on file in the li-

brary of the Theological Seminary of Fairfax County, Va., near Alexandria, Va., and from them some scant information of the early days may be obtained. Nansemond County was created in 1645 out of upper Norfolk County, and Suffolk is one of the oldest towns in the county.

John Winborne, of Suffolk, Va., was the oldest one of the family of whom we have any record. He was a large landowner in his county and a man of much prominence. He was one of the vestrymen of the old Episcopal church at Suffolk from 1743 to 1754, and church warden in 1748, as shown from the old vestry books above mentioned. In 1746 he voted in the vestry to rebuild the old brick church at Suffolk, which was repaired and completed in 1748. In 1750 he was made one of the processioners of his parish, which was the same as surveyor-general under the colonial laws of North Carolina. These places were filled by the ablest men of the parish.

The law of Virginia in reference to their elections and required qualifications is

found in Hening's Statutes at Large of Virginia, and reads as follows:

"That for the making and proportioning the levys and assessments for building and repairing churches, and chappels, provisions for the poore, maintenance of the minister and such other necessary duties for the more orderly managing all parociall affairs, be it enacted that twelve of the most able men of each parish be by the major part of the said parish chosen to be vestrymen out of which the minister and vestrymen to make choice of two church wardens yearly; And that none shall be admitted to be of the vestry that do not take the oath of allegiance and supremacy to his Majesty and subscribe to be conformable to the doctrines and discipline of the Church of England." Hen. Sts. at Large, p. 44.

The church wardens were required to present to the courts of the parish, twice a year, all persons who had committed misdemeanors in the parish. They took the place of our grand juries. They were also required to look after the repairing of the churches,

furnishing the churches with books, ornaments, a great Bible, prayer books, communion cloth and napkins and the like. Hen. Sts., pp. 51, 52.

Processioners were appointed by the courts. "Two honest and able surveyors" were selected for each parish, and the vestry divided their parishes into precincts, and had the lands processioned between Easter and Whitsunday. Hen. Sts., p. 102.

John Winborne also owned lands on Bennett's Creek, in North Carolina. He is a witness to a deed from Nat. Wright to James Wilson, dated February 21, 1732. William Jones, in October, 1739, conveyed a tract of land to Edward Arnold and mentions the lands of John Winborne as part of the boundary.

John Winborne married Anne Hunter, of Chowan County, N. C. Her mother, Anne Hunter, died in 1751, leaving a will in which she spoke of her son William, son-in-law Edward Arnold, daughters Judith Blanchard, Anne Winborne, Hester Knight, Alice Arnold, and Sarah Osborn. He survived

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his wife, Anne, and later married Sarah ————, who survived him, and whose name appears on the list of the inhabitants of Nansemond County in 1782 and 1784.

Thomas Winborne, as appears from the old vestry books of Nansemond County, was elected vestryman of the parish in 1759, "in ye presence of James Winborne and Josiah Winborne." He remained vestryman until 1767, when he resigned and moved to North Carolina and settled in the territory now known as Hertford County. His brother Henry had preceded him in 1742. Thomas married Sarah Benton, of Chowan County, daughter of John Benton and wife, Sarah. He was processioner in 1763, church warden in 1764. In 1764, 1765 to 1767, the time of his resignation, he is spoken of as Capt. Thomas Winborne. In 1765 the vestry ordered that the line between the lands of James Winborne and Charles Jenkins be processioned by Robert Holland. In 1768, in the upper parish of Nansemond County, the processioners were James Winborne, John Winborne, Jr., and Josiah Winborne. In

1767 the old vestry books mention Robert Winborne as being present and acting as a processioner.

From 1783 to 1786 these old vestry books show, annually, that accounts in favor of Sarah Winborne and Henry Winborne were allowed for provisions, clothing, etc., furnished the poor.

The following appears on the record of the vestry meeting in 1752:

"Pursuant to an order of vestry, we, the subscribers, have gone round every man's land, and renewed their landmarks. Beginning ——— Thomas Winborne ———, a line between John Winborne and John Holland—present the said Winborne and John Faulk; a line between John Winborne and Culbert Hedgepeth—present John Hedgepeth, James Sumner, and Solomon Holland; a line between John Winborne and William Harrison—present said Winborne and John Faulk; a line between John Winborne and James Holland."

In 1747 John Winborne, Jr., is also mentioned as a processioner. John Winborne

later moved to Hertford County and became a lieutenant in Capt. Joseph Walker's company from Hertford County in the Continental army. Col. Rec., Vol. 10, p. 944. Vol. 16, p. 1185.

From the above facts, which were taken from the old vestry books in the library of the Theological Seminary of Fairfax County, Va., it appears that the old members of the Winborne family of Nansemond County, Va., were not only landowners, but were among the best and ablest people of the parish.

Henry Winborne, the son of John Winborne, Sr., the old vestryman, church warden and processioner, came to North Carolina in October, 1742, and bought land and settled in about four miles from our present town of Winton, and became a large land- and slaveowner, and is the ancestor of the Winborne families now in Hertford County. He and William Murfree were the first representatives from the new county of Hertford after it was created in December, 1759. He served from 1760 to

1762 in the Colonial Assembly that met in New Bern, N. C. Col. Rec., Vol. 6, pp. 810 and 916.

He was also chairman of the old county court, both before and after the Revolutionary war. He served in the Continental army from May 24, 1777, to its close. On April 7, 1786 (State Rec., Vol. 16, p. 1185) the State granted him 389 acres of land for his services. Henry, Captain Thomas, and John Winborne were brothers. Their sister Elizabeth married Charles Jenkins, one of my wife's old ancestors. Henry's grant of land is on record in the office of the Secretary of State at Raleigh, and a copy is in possession of the writer. He left one daughter, Sarah, and two sons, William and Thomas. He married Sarah Hare. From William sprang the Winbornes in the Harrellsville section, and from Thomas sprang the Winbornes in Maney's Neck and Murfreesboro section.

Henry Winborne

HE WAS Major in the State troops in his county in 1784. According to the first United States census, 1790, he was next to the largest slaveowner in his county, Col. Hardy Murfree owning forty-five slaves and Henry Winborne forty-three slaves. The latter owned about 2,000 acres of land in his county at his death and was one of the wealthiest and most highly respected men in his county. He left two sons, William and Thomas. The latter married Sarah Copeland, and they left one son, Elisha, and one daughter, Sarah Agatha. His son Elisha married Martha Warren, of Southampton County, Va. Elisha Winborne died July 20, 1829, in his thirty-seventh year, leaving surviving him his wife, sons Micajah Thomas, Samuel D., Robert Henry, and Richard, and daughter Caroline. Micajah T. Winborne died in Mobile, Ala., in 1842, and Richard Winborne died in La Grange, Tenn., in 1862. Major Samuel D. Win-

borne and wife, Mary Hare Pretlow, are the parents of the writer and his brothers and sisters. Dr. Robert Henry Winborne and wife, Annie Parker, are the parents of the Chowan family of Winbornes.

The writer married, December 29, 1879, Miss Nellie Vaughan, of Murfreesboro, N. C., daughter of Col. Uriah Vaughan and wife, Sarah A. Vaughan, nee Jenkins. The issue of this marriage are Uriah V., Stanley, B. B. Winborne, Jr., and Micajah T. Winborne. The oldest and youngest died young. Stanley Winborne graduated at the University of North Carolina in 1906 and afterwards studied law at the University, and is now the law partner of his father. Benj. B. Winborne, Jr., is a merchant in his native town.

From Col. Rec., Vol. 22, p. 835, I copy the following affidavit:

"Edenton ———. November 26th, 1763: This day personally appeared before me, Henry Winborne, Esq., and made oath on the Holy Evangelists of Almighty God, that the ticket he received from Will Herritage, clerk

B. B. WINBORNE, JR.,

MERCHANT,

Son of Hon. B. B. Winborne and wife, Nellie Vaughan.

Filial love and devotion are majestic in his nature.

of the House of Assembly, for his wages as member for the county of Hertford, amount to eleven pounds and fourteen shillings and six pence, proclamation money, is lost or mislaid, he having the misfortune to lose his pocketbook in which he had about 10 pounds proclamation money, and several other papers of consequence to him, and this deponent further sayeth that he is not certain whether the said ticket was therein or not, but is certain said ticket is lost.

"FRANCIS CORBIN, A. J."

N. B.—The wages due him was for his attendance at New Bern Assembly in 1762.

Anne Winborne

ANNE WINBORNE, the wife of John Winborne, of the Suffolk vestry, and father of Maj. Henry Winborne, Capt. Thomas Winborne and Lieutenant John Winborne, of Hertford County, N. C., was the daughter of Elisha Hunter, of Chowan County, N. C., and his wife, Anne, who was the daughter of Thomas Walton, Sr., and wife, Sarah Walton, of Chowan County, N. C.

Elisha Hunter

ELISHA HUNTER was the son of Isaac Hunter and wife ————————, of Chowan County. Isaac Hunter was elected vestryman of old St. Paul Episcopal church, in Edenton, N. C., in April, 1737, to succeed Robert Forster, Esq., who had resigned and removed to Perquimans County, N. C. Forster was a leading lawyer in his day. Isaac Hunter remained vestryman of that church until 1745, shortly before his death. He died about 1753, leaving a will dated April 17, 1752, and probated at April court, 1753. He speaks of his son Elisha and devises to him the plantation on which he lived and other property. He mentions, also, his other children, to whom he made devises. The Hunters of Chowan County, N. C., came from Lancaster County, Pennsylvania.

Isaac Hunter

ISAAC HUNTER moved to Chowan County, N. C., about 1720. He and his sons became prominent and large property holders. His sons were Elisha, Isaac, Daniel, and Jacob Hunter, all of whom were leading citizens in their county.

Jacob Hunter was a member of the vestry of St. Paul parish, and on June 19, 1776, the vestry met and passed a resolution to maintain and support all the acts, resolutions, and regulations of the Continental and Provincial Congresses to the utmost of their power and ability. Col. Rec., Vol. 10, p. 612.

Jacob Hunter and his nephew, William Hunter, a son of Elisha and Anne Hunter, were appointed by the April Congress, in 1776, a committee in the Edenton district to establish manufacturies and to secure muskets and bayonets for the army. Col. Rec., Vol. 10, p. 539.

Jacob Hunter was also appointed Major in the army by the April Congress.

Jacob Hunter was a member of the Congress of May 12, 1776, that framed and adopted the first Constitution of North Carolina. Col. Rec., Vol. 10, p. 914.

He was one of the Representatives from Chowan County in the House of Commons in 1777 and 1778. Col. Rec., Vol. 12, pp. 265 and 655. And when Gates County was formed, in 1779, he was cut off in the new county and represented that county in the Senate in 1783. State Rec., Vol. 19, p. 129.

Elisha Hunter was the executor of his father, Isaac Hunter. The coat of arms of Isaac Hunter is stamped on the seal to his will, on which is a dragon, which in the military annals of those days indicated that he was educated, trained, and armed as a soldier. Elisha died without a will, so far as I have been able to ascertain in any researches. His wife, Anne, survived him.

The Hunters of this family have descendants in Gates County, N. C., and others are scattered throughout the States.

In England we find John and William Hunter in the parish of East Kilbride, in

Lanarkshire. They were sons of John Hunter and wife, Agnes, who were the parents of ten children. William Hunter was born May 23, 1718, and became a celebrated physiologist and physician, and the first great teacher of anatomy in England. In 1764 he became the physician extraordinary to her Majesty, Queen Charlotte. He died full of honors March 30, 1783.

John Hunter, the youngest of the ten children of John and Agnes Hunter, also attained great eminence as a physiologist and surgeon and as a leading instructor in medicine. He was born February 13, 1728, and married in July, 1771, Anne Horne, daughter of Robert Horne. He died in 1793.

Among the close friends of William and John Hunter were Samuel Sharpe and William Cullen, the latter being of the same family as the wife of Maj. Robert West, who moved from England to Chowan County, N. C. Mrs. West was Martha Cullen, of Dover, Eng. Several of the sons of John and Agnes Hunter moved to America.

Anne Hunter

ANNE HUNTER, the wife of Elisha Hunter and mother of Anne Winborne, was the daughter of Thomas Walton, Sr., and wife, Sarah Walton, of Chowan County, N. C. I have been unable, in my researches, to learn the maiden name of Mrs. Sarah Walton, and I find that the late J. R. B. Hathaway made a diligent search to learn who she was, but failed in his efforts. They were evidently people of high standing. In her will she speaks of her daughter, Anne Winborne, son William Hunter, and other children. She survived her husband, Elisha Hunter. The latter left no will, so far as we have been able to ascertain. William Hunter served with his uncle, Jacob Hunter, on the military committee of the Edenton District in 1776, as before stated.

Thomas Walton

THOMAS WALTON, SR., moved to Chowan County, N. C., from Isle of Wight County, Va., and may have married before moving to North Carolina. I find from William and Mary College Quarterly, Vol. 7, p. 268, an historical magazine edited by Dr. Lyon G. Tyler, president of that college, and son of the late Hon. John Tyler, president of the United States, that Thomas Walton, Sr., was a member of the vestry in upper Isle of Wight County, Va., in 1724, and also church warden serving with Capt. James Day, Capt. Lawrence Baker, W. W. Kinckin, and others—Alexander Forbes being the minister. Some few years after this, about 1727, Mr. Walton moved to Chowan County, N. C., and was elected a member of the vestry of St. Paul church, Edenton, N. C., in 1740, and was also one of the Representatives from Chowan County in the Colonial General Assembly of 1740, and appointed Justice of the Peace in 1750. Col. Rec., Vol. 4,

p. 1046. He died about 1757, leaving a will dated November 12, 1750, and probated July 5, 1757, before Governor Gabriel Johnston at Eden House. In his will he mentions his daughter, Anne Hunter, and his other children. Katherine Walton married, January, 1756, Abraham Hill, of Chowan County, son of Abram Hill and wife, Judith, of Nansemond County, Va., and grandson of Henry Hill. Abram Hill and his wife, Katherine, moved to Wake County, North Carolina.

Katherine Walton was not the daughter of Thomas Walton, Sr., but daughter of Thomas Walton, Jr., the son of William Walton, who died in 1732, and wife, Sarah. Thomas Walton, Sr., died prior to this marriage, and hence could not have signed the marriage bond. The vestry at Edenton, February 2, 1744, ordered that Rev. Clement Hall preach at the house of Thomas Walton, Jr., of Katherine Creek, every Monday after he preached at Knotty Pine chapel on Sunday.

I have seen it stated that Abram Hill, of

Wake County, married Christian Walton, daughter of Thomas Walton, Sr. This is a mistake. He had no daughter by that name. Christian Walton was the daughter of Palatiah Walton.

Susanna Walton, daughter of Thomas Walton, Sr., married, September 6, 1753, Amos Hinton, son of James Hinton, of Chowan County.

William, the son of Thomas Walton, Sr., enlisted in the Continental army, as Lieutenant, April 17, 1777, in Captain Pointer's company, of Chowan County, Seventh Regiment. He was promoted to Captain, August 1, 1781, and served in the army until he was "deranged," January 1, 1783. "Deranged" is a military term, meaning honorably discharged. Col. Rec., Vol. 16, pp. 71, 1185.

Thomas Walton, Sr., was the author of the bill to build a jail and court house for Chowan County, and secured its passage while he was a member of the Colonial Assembly from Chowan County in 1740. Col. Rec., Vol. 4, p. 1740.

There was another Thomas Walton, of Chowan County. He emigrated to the county from King and Queen County, Va., and died in the year 1719, leaving a will in which he speaks of his wife, Anne, and three sons and four daughters, without naming them. He refers in affectionate terms to them and states that they were living in the parish of Tatsie in King and Queen County, Va. He was evidently a man of much wealth. He gave his whole estate to his wife, Anne, and seven children, to be equally divided between them.

We find in the early records of Cumberland County, Md., Prince Edward and Goochland counties, Va., Waltons bearing the same name as we find in North Carolina. Timothy Walton, in 1766, represented Chowan County in the Colonial Assembly. Col. Rec., Vol. 7, p. 343.

The Waltons in England were noted people, scholarly and literary in taste, but not noted for energy and industry. In Lancashire, England, there are the townships Walton-Le-Dale, and Walton-on-the-Hill.

Among the leading men of the family were Brian Walton and Isaac Walton. The former was Bishop of Chester and author of the great Polyglott Bible of London. He was born in Yorkshire in 1600, and died November 29, 1661. He was noted for his great learning. Hallam, in his history of the literature of Europe, makes favorable reference to this gentleman.

Isaac Walton was born in Stafford, England, in August, 1593, and was the son of Jervis Walton. He lived rather an humble and quiet life, but was noted for his writings and lovable character.

Robert Walton emigrated to America from England in 1682, with William Penn, and his son Robert, who married Frances ————————, lived in Prince Edward County, Va., and was the grandfather of George Walton, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence from Georgia, in 1776, and afterwards became Governor and United States Senator from that State. George Walton was the son of Robert Walton, son of Robert and wife Frances Wal-

ton. Robert Walton, Jr., married Sally Hughes, daughter of Jesse Hughes, a French Huguenot. They were the parents of Hon. George Walton, of Georgia.

In 1759 Timothy Walton, of Chowan County, N. C., qualified as guardian of Robert Walton, orphan of John Walton. The name of Isaac Walton, also, often appears in the records of Chowan and Gates counties, N. C. These family names would indicate that the Albemarle Waltons were of the same families as were the English Waltons, the Maryland and Virginia Waltons.

Henry Winborne

THE HENRY WINBORNE mentioned on page 119 of my "Winborne Family" as receiving a deed for land from Josiah Duggan, and whose widow, Sarah, who is mentioned on same page, and their children, on page 120, was the son of Dempsey Winborne, of Northampton County, N. C. This family moved South about 1836 and settled in Tennessee, Mississippi, and Arkansas and Colorado. I have received letters from a number of them.

Martha Warren

MARTHA WARREN, the wife of Elisha Winborne, was the daughter of Col. Etheldred Warren and wife, Margaret Riddick Darden, of Southampton County, Va. Colonel Warren was the son of Samuel Warren, who received from William Gooch, of Virginia, a grant in 1736 for a tract of land in Nansemond (now Southampton) County, Va., which is still in the family, adjoining the ancestral home of Elisha Winborne's family, now owned by my brother, Samuel Pretlow Winborne. Samuel Warren descended from Hon. Thomas Warren, of Surry County, Va., who was a member of the House of Burgesses from that county from 1658 to 1666.

Robert Warren Barkley, an attorney-at-law in New York City, has recently sent me a sketch of the Warren family of Surry County, Va., which traces the family through royal families to about the ninth century. He writes that Hon. Thomas

Warren, of Surry County, Va., was the son of Sir Edward Warren, of Poynton Hall, Cheshire, England, by his third wife, Susan, daughter of Sir William Booth, of Durham-Massey. The name in the early centuries was de Warenne.*

*Changed to de Warren in the Fourteenth Century, and Warren in the Sixteenth Century.

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Winborne, Benjamin B. (Benjamin Brodie),
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